## HILLSIDE

Continued from A1

indicate that the land is nearly 150 acres and adjacent to a 78acre lot purchased by the city last year.

The council has apparently discussed the sale in closed session several times, but council memibers are not permitted to reveal closed-session negotiations. Greg Astorian, the real estate agent handling the deal for the property owners, declined to comment until the deal is finalized.

Ouintero said the purchase will prevent a large housing development from sprouting on the land.

This will be the city's third large that with our overall policy." land purchase in 16 months to curb hillside development. In ad- erty purchased in December, a dition to the 78-acre purchase in large, 260-acre patch of terrain December, which cost \$4.3 million, the city joined with the Canyon to Scholl Canyon will re-Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to buy 252 acres from John and Lee Gregg in December 2002, for \$25 million. The city paid \$13.25 million for that land, known as the Oakmont View'V property.

a policy about preserving open terity." space where possible, and where financially feasible." Councilman cussions of hillside zoning, Rafi Manoukian said. "We've demonstrated that with the Oakmont property [and] the [78-acre]

Since the land abuts the propstretching from Chevy Chase main untouched by developers.

"We're delighted," said Dick Murray, president of the Chevy Chase Estates Assn. "We've had our quarrels with the City Council over land, but I must say, this is terrific. That's a lot of territory "The current council does have that's going to be saved for pos-

During the council's recent dis- Loftus said. than trying to limit development property, and we are continuing through zoning, which could lead lots they could take out of it."

to legal battles.

"Some properties will be buildable on this lot," Manoukian said. "By taking a preemptive strike in purchasing the property — if we're purchasing the property the city would avoid future litigation, future [environmental reportl costs and staff time in dealing with this issue."

The value of land in the canyons varies, said Ray Loftus, a Glendale real estate agent.

"You can bu that are straig SFUND RECORDS CTR 2064871

very steep. But its a good area. Manoukian suggested the city ex- Homes up there are selling in the plore buying open land rather \$700,000 range. [The land's value] depends on how many buildable



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### U. S. EPA Signs Record of Decision for No Remedial Action at the Verdugo Study Area Site

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has signed the Record of Decision (ROD) that determined conditions at the Verdugo Study Area site, located in the Verdugo Basin, do not warrant remedial action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund law).

From November 6, 2003 to December 5, 2003, the U.S. EPA conducted a public comment period for the Verdugo Study Area site proposed plan and held a public meeting at the Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School in Glendale, CA on November 18, 2003. The U.S. EPA received no comment on the proposed plan and on February 24, 2004 signed the ROD that states no action is necessary at the study area to ensure adequate protection of human health and the environment. A copy of the document has been placed at the following site repositories for the public availability.

#### SITE INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

U.S. EPA Superfund Records Center Los Angeles Department of Water and Power 95 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Phone: 415-536-2000

La Canada Library 4545 Oakwood Avc. La Canada, CA 91011

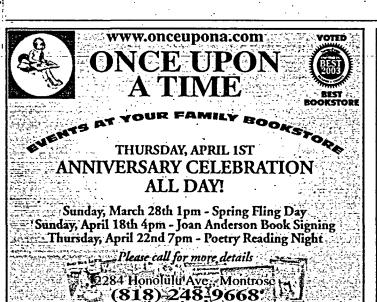
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